

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
July 8, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Phillip Burch presiding, and the following present to wit:

Jose Luis Aguilar	Bill Rogers
Kent Bratcher	Jeff Youtsey
Manuel Madrid Jr	

The following were absent:

Terry Hill (*joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)
Raul Rodriguez
Nora Sanchez

Also present:

Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk-Treasurer
John Caraway, City Attorney

It was determined that a quorum was present. The invocation was given by Mayor Burch, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Departments and Employees

Janeth Cox was recognized for receiving her Wastewater Level II certification.

David Watson received a letter of commendation from Fire Chief J.D. Hummingbird.

Captain Marc Nason and Fire Marshal James Abner were recognized for receiving their Certified Public Manager designation from the National Certified Public Management program at Arizona State University.

Chief Raley introduced the following new employees:

Amanda Keller – Detention Officer
Melissa Bejarano – Detention Officer
Cecil Kimberlin – Community Service Officer
Allison Goekey – Certified Patrol Officer
Beth Hahn – Certified Patrol Officer
Oscar Pena – Certified Patrol Officer
Robert Rushton – Police Corporal
Greg Hall – Police Corporal
Kirk Roberts – Police Corporal
David Bailey – Certified Patrol Officer

Consent Agenda

Councilor Aguilar moved to approve the Consent Agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rodriguez and upon vote, the motion passed.

The Consent Agenda includes:

1. Approval of Minutes: *June 24, 2014 – Regular meeting
2. Consideration of Bids:
 - A. *Approval of award of bid for Artesia Chamber of Commerce Re-roofing, Interior and Mechanical Improvements to Crestline Building Corporation of Las Cruces, NM
3. Contracts, Leases and Agreements:
 - A. *Approval of a temporary extension of the Contract for City Attorney at the rate of \$145.00 per hour
4. Appointments:
5. Resignations:
6. Dates of Hearing:
7. *Travel and Training:
 - A. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend a Microsoft Excel training in Roswell, NM. Registration is the only cost
 - B. F&A – Permission for one (1) employee to attend a Microsoft Excel training in Carlsbad, NM. Registration is the only cost
 - C. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the NM Fire Service Conference in Ruidoso, NM. Request actual expenses
 - D. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the 1st Line Supervision & Management training in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses
 - E. Police – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the 2014 Crimes Against Children conference in Dallas, TX. Request actual expenses
8. Use of Facilities *(approval contingent upon receipt of all applicable fees, license(s) and dept approvals):*
9. Routine Requests for City Facilities:
 - A. *Geri Dosalia representing the Artesia Public Library has requested permission to use Guadalupe Park on Saturday, July 19, 2014 from 9 am to 12 noon for Rockets in the Park. *Contingent upon Department approvals*
 - B. *Forever Free Fellowship has requested the use of Guadalupe Park from Saturday, July 26, 2014 to Sunday, August 3, 2014 from 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm each day for their Annual Tent Revival. *Contingent upon proof of security*
 - C. *Amy Mathis and Judy Stewart representing Artesia Public Schools have requested the closure of Bulldog Boulevard and Main Street between Bulldog Boulevard and 2nd Street from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm on Friday, September 19, 2014 for their annual Homecoming Parade. Request approval of use of city services and road closures as stated on application. *Contingent upon State of NM DOT approval*
 - D. Artesia Police Department has requested use of the Artesia Recreation Center for their Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 from 3pm – 10pm
10. Budgeted Items:
11. Non-budgeted Items:
12. *Payment of Bills

Public Hearings

Mayor Burch declared the meeting open for public hearing for the following:

1. Consideration and approval of an ordinance approving the sale of real property with a value of over \$25,000.

Mayor Burch requested that this public hearing be continued to the next meeting (the retreat) to allow for continued negotiations.

Councilor Rogers moved to continue this public hearing to the retreat meeting, July 25-27, 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilor Bratcher and upon vote, with Councilor Aguilar voting "nay", the motion passed.

2. Consideration and approval of an ordinance amending section 1-6-14F (benefits) of Chapter 1-6 (Employee Practices) of the Artesia Municipal Code.

Human Resources Director Bill Thalman reported that due to the changes in the benefits package for 2014-2015, there ordinance needs to be amended to reflect the change. The new package no longer requires city employees to carry dental insurance and an addition was added to require the employee to be covered by disability insurance funded by the employee.

No public comment was received.

Councilor Rogers moved to approve the amendment to section 1-6-14F(Benefits), Ordinance No. 941. The motion was seconded by Councilor Youtsey and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Aguilar, Bratcher, Madrid, Rogers, Youtsey

Nay: none

the motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 941

3. Consideration and approval of a zoning variance for lot size requirements to set a manufactured home, Zone R-2, Roselawn Block 4, Lot 1, W255' N25' to POB, N75', W65', E65' to POB, Section 17R, T17S, R26E.

Acting Community Development Director Cheryl Hinkle reported that this zoning variance is for a small lot located at 318 Runyan. The owner would like to place a small manufactured house on the lot, but requests that the backyard setback be 18 ft. instead of the required 20 ft.

Planning and Zoning recommended passage.

No public comment was received.

Councilor Aguilar moved to approve the backyard zoning variance for 318 Runyan. The motion was seconded by Councilor Youtsey and upon vote, the motion passed.

Personnel

Human Resources Director Bill Thalman presented the safety statistics for June.

Public Safety**Police**

Chief Raley presented the department statistics for June.

Fire

Chief Hummingbird presented the department statistics for June.

Community Development

Code Enforcement Officer Cheryl Hinkle presented the department statistics for June.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair reported on the status of projects.

Mayor Pro tem Hill joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

City Clerk

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson reported for the record, that the operating budget for 2014-15 has been approved by the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA).

Councilor Aguilar moved to reschedule the August 26, 2014 meeting to August 25, 2014 to accommodate attendance at the NM Municipal League annual conference. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, the motion passed.

Mayor

Councilor Rogers, moved that in accordance with 10-15-1-H(8), the Council and Mayor go into executive session regarding the sale of real property (private sale). The motion was seconded by Councilor Aguilar and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Aguilar, Bratcher, Hill, Madrid, Rogers, Youtsey

Nay: none

the motion passed.

Council recessed to executive session at 7:45 p.m.

Council reconvened at 8:08 p.m.

Councilor Bratcher moved that the only matters discussed in executive session pertained to the sale of real property and no action was taken. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, the motion passed.

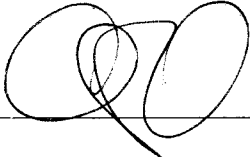
Mayor Burch reported on the status of the immigrants housing project at FLETC. The Mayor reported that the total capacity would be 672, all mothers and children. Once the deportation hearings have taken place, it will take approximately two weeks for actual deportation.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m. July 8, 2014.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk